

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Request for Telephone Interview

Prior to the next Office Action, the below-signed counsel respectfully requests a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss the patentability of the independent claims in view of the discussions below

The Office Action

In the above-mentioned Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 283-290 as failing to comply with the written description requirement; claims 271, 273, 274, 278, 297, 298, and 302 were rejected as being anticipated by Hummell et al. (Patent No. 6,660,113); claims 231-270, 279-282, 291-296, and 299-301 were allowed; and claims 272 and 275-277 were objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to the Office Action, claims 272 and 302 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claim 271 amended and claims 303-351 added.

Brief Discussions of Patentability of Independent Claims

The allowance of claims 231-270, 279-282, 291-296, and 299-301 is acknowledged with appreciation.

Claim 283 is disclosed by post assembly 404, locator member 420, lift post 404, etc. Additionally, it is disclosed by post assembly 120, applicator body 104, locator assembly 320, 324, etc.

Allowable dependent claim 272 is now amended independent claim 271.

Claim 303 includes a small-hole centering structure and a large-hole centering structure, similar to those claimed in claim 283.

Claim 315 includes a label support surface, a label centering ring and an opening in the center of the support surface in which the centering ring is movable. Elements 36 and 38 of Hummell center a non-circular optical disc and not a label and are not in a center of element 24; see FIG. 2.

Claim 328 includes an outer centering ring and a spindle which is movable by a coil spring with respect to the outer centering ring. In contrast, Hummell element 66 moves with elements 36 and 38.

Claim 337 includes the outer centering ring encircling the centering post above the support surface. Hummell elements 36 and 38 do not encircle element 32; see FIG. 1.

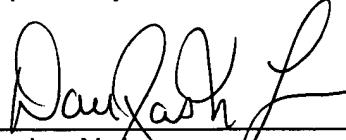
Claim 346 is allowable dependent claim 275, written in independent format.

Concluding Remarks

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicants' undersigned counsel at (213) 689-5142 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1853. Should such additional fees be associated with an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this paper be considered a petition therefor.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas N. Larson
Registration No. 29,401

Date: November 30, 2004

SQUIRE SANDERS & DEMPSEY, L.L.P.
801 S. Figueroa, 14th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Telephone: (213) 624-2500
Facsimile: (310) 623-4581